Discussion with the representatives of textiles industry

1948. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the discussions of the Labour, Textiles and Finance Ministries with the representatives of the textile industry, the representatives have urged the Government for liberal labour laws, removal of import curbs and the phasing out of the multi-fibre agreement;

(b) if so, to what extent Government have considered these views;

(c) by when, the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the other concessions being provided to the textiles mills in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (d) There has been no formal joint meeting of Labour, Textile and Finance Ministries with representatives of textile industry on these issues. However, the exporters do raise export related problems including need for removal of import curbs and creation of a labour productive environment for investment and growth at various fora from time to time. Majority of Quantitative restrictions for investment have already been phased out. The Multi-fibre Agreement, governing quota regime would be phased out by 1st January 2005, as agreed under Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.